

put into the hands of their own common sense had they not been separated from their parent stock and kept from contamination either from them, or the other people of the old world, by intervention of so wide an ocean. I think by far the most important bill in our whole code is that for the diffusion of knowledge among the people. No other sure foundation can be devised for the preservation of freedom and happiness. \* \* Preach, my dear sir, a crusade against ignorance; establish improve the law for educating the common people. Let countrymen know that the people alone can protect us against those evils, and that the tax which will be paid for this purpose is not more than the thousandth part of what will be paid to kings, priests, and nobles who will rise up among us if we leave the people in ignorance. (Written from Paris to George Washington 1786. F. IV., 268.)

EDUCATION.—The foundations you have laid in languages mathematics are proper for every superstructure. The former exercises our memory while that and no other faculty is matured and prevents our acquiring habits of idleness. The latter gives exercise to our reason, as soon as that has acquired certain degree of strength, and stores the mind with truths which are useful in other branches of science. At this moment then a second order of preparation is to commence. I therefore propose to you that be extensive, comprehending astronomy natural philosophy (or physics), natural history, anatomy botany and chemistry. No inquisitive mind will be content to be ignorant of any of these branches. (To Thomas Jefferson Randolph, Jr., 1786. F. IV., 290.)

EDUCATION.—Above all things I hope the education of common people will be attended to; convinced that on this good sense we may rely with the most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty. (To James Madison, 1786. F. IV., 480.)

EDUCATION.—In truth if anything could ever induce me to sleep another night out of my own house it would have to be my solicitude for the education of our youth, most anxiously wish to see the highest degrees of education